Washington, DC – Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a provision authored by U.S. Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D-Milwaukee) to ensure that Gulf Coast residents – including the fishermen and business owners impacted by the BP oil spill – have a voice in clean up and restoration.

Congresswoman Moore said, "It's going to take a long time to clean up this mess and restore the Gulf. The people who live off of and enjoy these beaches, marshes and wetlands need a say in how this gets done."

Moore's provision was included in the manager's amendment to the CLEAR Act, legislation that will implement new drilling safety standards, hold BP responsible and eliminate liability limits, and strengthen federal drilling oversight. The legislation sets up a task force – to be made up of Gulf State governors and the heads of relevant Federal Agencies. Her provision requires the task force create a Citizen's Advisory Board – including fisherman and business owners impacted by the spill – to assist in its work.

Congresswoman Moore spoke on the House Floor about her provision earlier today. Video can be seen here .

The legislation also creates a new conservation fund – paid for by oil revenues – to protect the Great Lakes and oceans.

The legislation now goes to the Senate for consideration.

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